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 regarding publication. This leaflet gives suggestions on the
 preparation of manuscripts and of illustrations. It is suggested
 that contributors to this journal write to its office requesting
 a copy of this leaflet.

EDITORIALS*

STATUS OF PROPOSED PUBLIC HEALTH LEGISLATION

The Fate of Certain Bills.—The California
 Legislature recessed on May 16 and will reconvene
 on July 17, 1933. The information given below
 concerning a number of the more important public
 health bills may be of interest. More detailed
 information is given in the report of the Com-
 mittee on Public Policy and Legislation, which
 is printed in this number, page 474.

Assembly Bill 1277. Introduced by Assembly-
 man Roy Nielsen of Sacramento:

"An act defining clinics and dispensaries and provid-
 ing for the operation, conduct, maintenance, and the
 examination and regulation thereof, and the issuance
 of permits therefor by the State Board of Public
 Health and the Director of Public Health."

After a very bitter battle the clinic bill was
 passed, reconsidered, and again passed at 1:30
 a. m. on May 16. The measure is now before
 Governor James Rolph, Jr. His signature would
 make it a law.

* Editorials on subjects of scientific and clinical inter-
 est, contributed by members of the California Medical As-
 sociation, are printed in the Editorial Comments column,
 which follows.

Senate Bill 674. Introduced by Senator Roy
 Fellom of San Francisco:

"An act to regulate the conduct of pounds, prescrib-
 ing the duties of persons in charge thereof or em-
 ployed thereat, and regulating the disposition of ani-
 mals impounded or sheltered therein."

The fight over this, the so-called antivivisection
 bill, was very strenuous. Amendments fortunately
 were added to the measure which emasculated its
 more vicious features. It was then re-referred
 to committee. Its passage at this fiftieth session
 of the legislature is now impossible. Two years
 hence, however, probably in some new form, it will
 no doubt again show itself. This fact should be
 kept in mind. A campaign of education in the
 years 1933 and 1934 would not be amiss. And two
 years from now, prior to the primary and final
 elections, the "vivisection" leanings of legislative
 candidates may well be scrutinized and appropriate
 action decided upon.

Assembly Bill 539. Introduced by Assembly-
 man Charles W. Lyon of Los Angeles:

"An act to amend sections 2167, 2167a, 2169, 2172
 and 2175 of, to repeal sections 2168, 2170, 2171 and
 2185c of, and to add new sections numbered 2168,
 2171, and 2185c to the Political Code, relating to per-
 sons mentally disordered or otherwise incompetent."

This bill, which was designed to provide more
 humanitarian care for the mentally sick, also was
 bitterly fought, especially by the organization of
 sheriffs of California. Through alert and loyal
 management it went on to passage and is now
 before the Governor for signature, where it is
 still being fought by the sheriffs. Its enactment
 into law would mean a long step forward for
 California in the handling of its mentally sick
 citizens.

After the above was written, press dispatches
 stated that because of the controversy over the
 measure, Governor Rolph had vetoed the bill, "but
 without prejudice" and with recommendation that
 it be reconsidered after the July recess.

Concerning other of the more important bills
 having a relationship to the public health, the
 following notations may be made:

Assembly Bill 1778. "An act to provide for
 the aid and relief of indigents" went on to pas-
 sage and is before the Governor for signature. It
 is seemingly not much better or worse than the
 law it seeks to replace.

The "corporate medicine" measures (S. B. 160,
 S. B. 953, and A. B. 695) were all "lost in
 committee."

The "naturopathic bills" (A. B. 1159 and A. B.
 1306) had a like fate.

The "pay patients in county hospitals" bills
 (A. B. 2190 and S. B. 782) also failed to get out
 of committee.

The "chiropractors to do compensation work"
 bill (A. B. 900) came out of committee but on
 the assembly floor was tabled, and by that route
 went down to defeat.

The "chiroprodists'" bill (A. B. 313) was satisfactorily amended and went on to passage.

* * *

Thanks of the Association to All Who Rendered Service.—Too much praise cannot be given to the chairman of the California Medical Association Committee on Public Policy and Legislation, Dr. Junius B. Harris of Sacramento, and his aides, who jointly bore the brunt of the hard legislative conflicts which have taken place almost daily since January 2, 1933, when the present fiftieth legislature of California held its first meeting. To the officers and to a host of other workers in the component county societies go the thanks of the Association for the efficient services which they likewise rendered.

Readers of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE are urged to scan the committee's report on page 474. Also the letter of Mr. Ben Read on page 473.

SOME COMPARATIVELY NEW DISEASES—IMPORTANCE OF THEIR STUDY

Some Important Diseases Which Are Making Their Start in California.—Because in the Pacific Slope commonwealths may be found a number of diseases not encountered in certain other sections of the United States, comment thereon may not be out of place. Several of these diseases have recently received special mention in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE.

* * *

In the April CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, page 275, Reed and Meyer of the George Williams Hooper Foundation of the University of California made brief editorial comment on tropical and oriental diseases which American physicians of the tomorrow in all probability will be called upon to prevent and treat. Their remarks may well be taken to heart.

* * *

Also in the April number, page 245, was printed a preliminary communication by Kofoid and Donat of the Zoölogical Laboratory of the University of California, in which attention was called to the possibilities of trypanosome infection in persons bitten by "kissing bugs," and offering the coöperation of the state university in the study of such cases.

* * *

An equally interesting paper was that on onchocercosis by Johnstone and Larsen of the Pacific Institute of Tropical Medicine of the University of California. This paper was printed in the May CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, page 361. The authors gave important information concerning the clinical manifestations of this little-known disease. The paper is worthy of perusal, and should be of particular interest to specialists in diseases of the eye.

* * *

In this June number of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE is printed a letter from

former Surgeon-General Rupert Blue, who had a prominent part in the federal effort to control the San Francisco bubonic plague outbreak in the period 1900-1910; and who was again ordered to California when bubonic plague showed itself in Los Angeles in the year 1924. Surgeon-General Blue's letter is printed on page 473.

While on the subject of bubonic plague, attention may be called to the fact that during Doctor Blue's sojourn at Los Angeles a strenuous effort was made to secure the passage of rat-proofing building ordinances in the county and city.* San Francisco has such ordinances. A special committee of the Los Angeles County Medical Association coöperated, but was unable to secure the passage of an ordinance which was drafted by Surgeon-General Blue and the writer. That effort did not go amiss, however, for this year a copy of the then proposed ordinance was given to Los Angeles County Health Officer Pomeroy, who induced the Board of Supervisors to pass it; its application applying to all buildings except residences. The residence exemption was made at this time because of the present general economic conditions. The Los Angeles City Health Department is also making an effort to secure the passage of a similar ordinance. It is hoped this effort will be successful. Such an ordinance is certainly much needed, and if not passed, the day may come when, through loss of much money and life, the city of Los Angeles will rue its disregard of this public health need. For as long as the *Bacillus pestis* is not eliminated in ground squirrels, rats and other rodents of California, bubonic plague must continue to play the rôle of a possible public health menace to our state and nation.

* * *

Another article of importance which is printed in this issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE is that by Brigadier General Munson of the United States Army Medical Corps, on the subject of "Reforestation Camps and Medical Opportunity." This paper will be found on page 422.

The picture which Munson draws of the new medical problems which may come into being when more than one hundred thousand civilian citizens are placed in the federal forest reserves located between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean should commend itself to the serious consideration of the medical profession of the entire United States. Here again, California has reason for congratulation in its possession of the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research. Dr. Karl Meyer, director of the Hooper Foundation, and Colonel C. J. Manly, chief surgeon of the Ninth Corps Area of the United States Army, are exerting all possible effort to safeguard public health interests, and will have the active support of the entire medical profession.

* * *

Psittacosis, or parrot fever, is still another disease which only a short time ago was practically unknown to American physicians. It is of special

* See CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, November 1927, pages 666, 683, and 684.